

REMARKS

Claims 10, 15-17, 27, and 29 are amended; new claims 30-45 are added; and claims 11-14, 18, 24-25, and 28 are canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 10, 15-17, 19-23, 26-27, and 29-44 are pending.

The amendments to the claims, and new claims 29-44, are based on the application as originally filed. In particular, new claims 30-44 are based on the allowed claims 12, 14-26, and 29 prior to the present amendment. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the office action, claims 12, 14-26, and 29 were objected to but stated to be allowable if rewritten.

Instead, new claims 30-44 are added based on claims 12, 14-26, and 29 prior to the present amendment. Therefore, new claims 30-44 are in condition for allowance.

In the office action, claims 10-11, 13, and 27-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), or alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of the applicant's admitted prior art Chemistry and Life No. 10, 2000, pages 46-51.

Independent claims 10 and 27 are amended to recite that the present invention includes the steps of inserting a single well into the mantle substance; forming a reaction cavity in the mantle substance with the reaction cavity connected to the single well; regenerating periodically the reaction cavity surface; and extracting the hydrogen from the reaction cavity out of the single well.

Claims 11, 13, and 28 are canceled.

Claims 10 and 27, and their respective dependent claims, 15-17, 19-23, 26-27, and 29 are patentable over the cited art, and so are in condition for allowance, since the cited art does not disclose or suggest all of the elements, steps, and features of the present invention, and one having ordinary skill in the art would not look to the cited art for the elements, steps, and features of the present invention.

In particular, the cited art of Chemistry and Life No. 10, 2000, pages 46-51, recites a plurality of wells, with one well serving to apply water, and another serving for the release of hydrogen. The amended claims recite a single well for both applying water and releasing hydrogen, as opposed to the plurality of wells in the cited art.

In addition, the cited art of Chemistry and Life No. 10, 2000, pages 46-51 fails to disclose or suggest the step of regenerating periodically the reaction cavity surface, as in the amended claims.

Therefore, all pending rejected claims 10 and 27 and their respective dependent claims are patentable over the cited art, so reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10 and 27 are respectfully requested.

Entry and approval of the present amendment and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

In case of any deficiencies in fees by the filing of the present amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiencies in fees to Deposit Account Number 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,



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